



# NEWS FROM:

## Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts

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### LA County Waterworks Partners with Lowe's to Launch Water-Saving Devices Rebate Line-up

*County's expanded program to provide another "Easy Way" for customers to save water and money*

**Antelope Valley** – The Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts No. 40 (District) is partnering with Lowe's Home Improvement on a rebate program for water saving devices aimed at providing an incentive for customers to reduce water use and increase water supply reliability. The program, approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, provides rebates to District customers for the purchase of water-saving washing machines, sprinkler controllers and other devices that increase water use efficiency both indoors and outside.

The rebate partnership launch comes on the heels of an announcement by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger declaring a state of emergency due to drought. Through the "Three Easy Ways" public outreach campaign and this new rebate program, the District hopes to help residents weather the drought. With the possibility of more dry years to come and court-ordered limits on supplies coming from Northern California, the new water-saving rebates will help Antelope Valley customers contribute to essential conservation practices in the home and garden.

"In addition to saving water, residents can also save considerable amounts of money both through the actual rebates and the reduction they'll see on water bills after the new devices are installed," said Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, who represents Antelope Valley.

The ambitious rebate program offers money back for rotating sprinkler nozzles, "smart" weather-based sprinkler controllers, high-efficiency clothes washers, synthetic turf, high-efficiency toilets, and waterless urinals for businesses. Rebates for the sprinkler nozzles are \$4 each and for synthetic turf, residents and businesses will be eligible for 30 cents per square foot. All other rebates

range from \$50 to \$150 for approved product models. More than 250 Waterworks customer have already taken advantage of the program.

Lowe's partners with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to educate homeowners on the benefits of installing energy-saving and water-saving products that have met the EPA's ENERGY STAR and WaterSense criteria for water efficiency and performance. For instance, the average household does almost 400 loads of laundry each year, consuming about 13,500 gallons of water. ENERGY STAR clothes washers can save more than 7,000 gallons of water a year.

"At Lowe's, we're committed to providing customers water-saving solutions that help maximize water savings and minimize expense without significantly altering lifestyle," said Michael Chenard, Lowe's director of environmental affairs. "Homeowners are looking for ways to save money and Los Angeles County's rebate program is an excellent way to offset the initial costs of water-conserving products that will save money long-term."

During the highest-use period summer of 2008, District customers voluntarily cut water use by 13 percent over the summer of 2007 by employing a few simple outdoor watering practices that are featured as part of the District's "Three Easy Ways" public outreach campaign. This new rebate program will help residents be even more efficient with water, progressing toward the Governor's goal of 20 percent reduction by 2020.

"As summer arrives, it is a good time to take advantage of the free programs the District offers customers to help them use water more efficiently," said Melinda Barrett, water conservation program manager with the District. "Conservation here—and throughout Los Angeles County—must be a priority. This partnership with Lowe's makes it easy for residents to take steps that will make a true impact on our water picture."

For more information about the rebate program or water conservation, District customers can visit <http://lacwaterworks.org/>.

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